

I-5 – South 317th Street HOV Direct Access Project Update

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Construction Update

Last week, crews **paved the median** in preparation to shift southbound traffic to a **temporary roadway** there in the middle of this month. This week, crews will stripe the lanes and install barrier for the temporary roadway. Crews are also getting ready to install light poles for the **temporary lighting system**.

Crews also completed the excavation for a **retaining wall** south of the 317th Street bridge support on the west side of I-5. Now construction for the foundation of this wall is underway.

Continuing activities on the project include installation of **drainage structures** and excavation for one of the new **detention ponds** on the east side of I-5.

You can view construction photos at

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5_S317th_DirectAccess/photos.htm

Southbound I-5 Lane Closures

Drivers should anticipate weekday closures of a single lane of I-5 southbound through the project area to accommodate construction activities.

Sound Transit

Sound Transit is the major funding partner on this project. Sound Transit is contributing **\$32.6 million** of the \$44.5 million budget to build the **direct access ramps**.

In addition to funding construction of the freeway ramps, Sound Transit is also providing **\$38.2 million** for construction of the new **Federal Way Transit Center**. This transit center will provide **1200 parking stalls** for commuters. Construction began in June 2004, and the transit center is scheduled to open in **February 2006**, after completion of the direct access ramps in late 2005.

The new direct access interchange and the new transit center represent a significant investment in the regional transportation system. Sound Transit and the Washington State Department of Transportation have forged an innovative and effective partnership to deliver a set of freeway improvements on I-5, I-90, and I-405 aimed at improving regional transit and keeping traffic moving. Sound Transit has been the lead

agency for environmental review and has worked cooperatively on the design and construction with WSDOT.

You can visit Sound Transit's Web site at <http://www.SoundTransit.org>.

Highway Advisory Radio Updates

Have you heard our weekly project updates on **AM 1520**? Now we want to hear from you! Just send an e-mail to Laura Johnson at JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov and let us know if you've tuned in.
